

S-E-C-R-E-T

31 August 1955

BRIEFING ON SCIENTIFIC DIVISION, [REDACTED] 25X1A
FOR AD HOC GUIDED MISSILES INTELLIGENCE SURVEY COMMITTEE

INTRODUCTION

The Scientific Division, [REDACTED] was established to perform 25X1A certain functions of which the most important are: (1) briefing senior Agency and State Department officials on scientific and technical intelligence, (2) conducting prescribed coordination activities in the scientific intelligence field on behalf of senior Agency officials, (3) providing technical assistance and interrogators to field agencies in support of exploitation programs, (4) conducting overt operations to collect scientific intelligence information and (5) providing 25X1A support [REDACTED] The remarks which follow concerning the relationship of the Scientific Division's activities to guided missiles intelligence must be considered in the light of the limits on time and manpower imposed by these functions. The Division was established in January 1950 and was at first staffed with personnel on temporary assignment. Beginning in 1951, a gradual transition to permanently assigned personnel took place and today the Division is staffed entirely with permanent personnel. O/SI provides personnel, funds and logistical support.

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1. REQUIREMENTS FOR INTELLIGENCE

a - c. The Scientific Division requires finished intelligence for the briefing of senior officials, guiding the activities of collectors and supporting operations.

d - e. Scientific Division may request special briefing material from O/SI or O/SI may send such material and suggest its use in briefings. The Scientific Division receives all finished O/SI intelligence and may also obtain material from other field agencies.

f. Scientific Division requirements for finished intelligence are not coordinated outside the Agency as a rule.

g. The response from O/SI on requirements established by the Scientific Division is good but the usually long transmittal time presents a continual problem.

h. A constant follow-up on established requirements takes place by cable or dispatch and is supplemented by visits of personnel from headquarters to the field and vice versa.

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2. COMMUNITY ASSETS

a. Two civilian professionals of the Scientific Detachment are engaged in interrogation, support or guidance work on guided missiles intelligence.

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b. The principal coordination of the activity is accomplished by staffs of the CIA activity [REDACTED] 25X1A

c. Some duplication of effort may exist but, particularly in the exploitation of prolific sources, recognized duplication may be desirable.

d. The assets of the national defense program are not utilized ordinarily except by incorporation in background material from O/SI. Greater use of such material, if it were available to the intelligence community, would be highly desirable.

e. Potential assets, including suitable contact with a sizeable 25X1A number [REDACTED] are being developed as time and manpower permit.

f. No serious effects result from security restrictions.

25X1C g. [REDACTED] may affect utilization of those of the Scientific Division. There is at times some overlap of interest with [REDACTED], but 25X1C this is more in the nature of short-term competition and of little over-all consequence. Over a period of years the assets of each organization have largely developed within separate geographic and professional spheres which overlap only in certain areas, notably [REDACTED]

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h. The two Scientific Division professionals have been specifically briefed on guided missiles but are not experts by reason of experience in guided missiles research and development.

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3. REQUIREMENTS FOR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION

a - c. Requirements are provided by O/SI through cables or dispatches processed by Support Staff. The bulk of requirements originate in Guided Missiles Division, although other divisions may at times place requirements on matters peripheral to guided missiles intelligence.

d. The Scientific Division may act directly in response to requirements if it has the necessary assets or it may place the requirements on field agencies, overt or covert, by mutual agreement.

e. At the joint installations (REG, DDC, ECIC) coordination of requirements is performed by staff personnel of the installation. In the general area of operations, working-level coordination usually takes place, except on requirements for clandestine collection.

f. Greater personnel strength would yield more, and probably quicker, action on requirements.

g-h. Since Scientific Division is not a normal consumer group and reflects the requirements of O/SI, the question of how its requirements for intelligence information are being fulfilled is difficult to answer and O/SI would have to provide the final assessment. As a rule, Scientific Division operates on the principle that increased flow of intelligence information through any channel is a desirable result of its activities. The Division therefore

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does not always request the action agency that it be advised of the progress of work on particular requirements. A filing system to control specific requests for information from O/SI is maintained and, on these, follow-up action is taken.

4. GUIDANCE TO COLLECTORS

a. Guidance may be passed on exactly as received from O/SI but is frequently re-worked in Scientific Division for specific purposes. Such adaptation of general background material places a high premium on the competence of the Scientific Division specialist. As illustrative of Division activities in guided missiles intelligence, the Division assisted USAFE in collecting information on the Moscow

25X1A sites, [REDACTED] and initiated working-level conferences, which included [REDACTED] to 25X1C exchange guided missiles intelligence. In any case, however, the bulk of the general guidance material originates in O/SI.

b. Requirements are served on collectors by memorandum through official channels or informally through working-level liaison.

c. Guidance material is kept up-to-date by periodic visits of personnel to review the latest information and by issuance of guidance papers. There is room for improvement on the currency of guidance material, although we believe Scientific Division to be somewhat better off than the majority of the field units in the area.

d. The Division maintains a procedure for processing requirements which includes prompt initial and periodic reporting on action taken in response to requirements. On the average, about 150 requirements in all fields are handled in this way each year.

e. Support Staff, O/SI is the principal backstop group for the Scientific Detachment and, by appropriate means, informs the Scientific Division of any developments in collection techniques known to O/SI. Working-level liaison in the field is also used to obtain knowledge of the existence and possible applications of new techniques.

f. Because of the small size of the Scientific Detachment, internal coordination of activities is of little concern. Outside operational coordination however largely depends on the Chief of the Division and informal working-level liaison. Policy coordination and coordination of targets for clandestine action are performed by the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee [REDACTED].25X1A

g. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] It is generally true, however, that the closer one approaches to covert operations, the less coordination takes place between two intelligence services.

h. The Scientific Division receives guidance from O/SI and relays information to collectors in other units who may likewise get information through their own command channels. Particularly

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as requirements relate to national intelligence, the Agency seems to have functioned fairly rapidly in informing its field groups.

5. COLLECTION EFFORTS

a. Primary collectors are two civilian professionals [REDACTED]

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b. Collection activities include interrogation of returned scientists (at REG), refugees and PW's (ECIC, [REDACTED]), defectors [REDACTED] 25X1A (DRC) and paid or unpaid informants.

c. Operations are only loosely coordinated except at REG, DRC and ECIC where central control systems are in effect.

d. The most effective method for learning about other collection operations against the same targets is through working-level contacts in the field, information from O/SI, and to a lesser extent, the coordination activities conducted under the Intelligence Coordination

25X1A Committee [REDACTED]

e. Scientific Division places a high priority on all guided missiles intelligence activities. Insofar as overt collection operations are concerned, the Chief, Scientific Division determines priorities against background requirements or information from O/SI. Priorities on clandestine collection which Scientific Division may be called upon to support are determined by the Interagency Priorities Committee. If needed, any guided missiles intelligence

collection operation can be given top priority.

f. Scientific Division relies on the judgement of O/SI as to the sufficiency of collection activity.

g. The Scientific Division finds no great problem due to deficient requirements or lack of proper guidance in the guided missiles intelligence field.

h. The lack of qualified personnel in active collection assignments, not in the Scientific Division but elsewhere within and outside the Agency, is the most serious handicap.

i. Scientific Division has attempted to emphasize the need for the employment of science and technology in collection. Although much of its own operations depend on personal contact in interrogations and the like rather than on technical collection techniques, through Division efforts increasing use of technical methods is being made by its own personnel and those of other collecting groups.

6. LATERAL FLOW OF INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION

a. Lateral distribution of information is good in the case of information coming from O/SI, but only fair as it relates to information from outside agencies. The effectiveness of lateral distribution of truly significant information depends, perhaps too much, on personal contact rather than on official dissemination.

- b. Scientific Division is a recipient of evaluations and results of research which are forwarded promptly from O/SI. A chronic problem however is that of obtaining expeditiously evaluations to be fed into subsequent operations. On this point, Scientific Division is having only fair success.
- c. Scientific Division does little estimation on its own part.
- d. Security classifications do not hinder lateral flow greatly except in the case of Special Intelligence and certain sensitive categories. Relatively few people in the field are cleared for these.
- e. Secure communications are available, though overloads which prolong the communication time occur with fairly regular frequency.
- f. The Scientific Division opinion is that lateral dissemination is rather promptly effected

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7. INTELLIGENCE RESEARCH, ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION

The Scientific Division is not a research and analysis unit. Evaluations, if performed, are for the purpose of guiding collection, usually while an operation is in progress. For this activity the Division depends on background material from OSI and working level contacts in the field.

8. INTELLIGENCE PRODUCTION

Scientific Division produces no finished guided missiles intelligence but does provide the headquarters and field offices, on behalf of the S&T 25X1A Subcommittee [REDACTED], with a monthly list of information reports filed by each participating agency. The overall list references any reports relating to guided missiles intelligence.